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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
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МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ АМНИСТИЯ
منظمة العفو الدولية
國際特赦組織

URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL **AI Index: ASA 21/82/97**

UA 327/97 **Possible "disappearance" / Fear for safety** **21 October 1997**

EAST TIMOR **Julio Soares da Silva, aged 27 or 28, bank employee**

Amnesty International has learned that Julio Soares da Silva has not been seen since around 17 September 1997 when he was arrested by unidentified men believed to be from military intelligence. The organization is deeply concerned for his safety.

Julio Soares da Silva's wife, Alexandrina Martins, told the Indonesian newspaper, *Kompas*, that four men arrived in a jeep at the couple's house in Gleno, Ermera district, and talked to her husband. When they left they took him with them but gave no reason why. Since then Alexandrina has been trying to find her husband.

The Indonesia National Commission on Human Rights in Dili is reportedly in touch with the security forces and representatives from the local government in an attempt to locate Julio Soares da Silva. However his whereabouts remain unknown.

Julio Soares da Silva is an employee with the Bank Pembangunan Daerah in Ermera.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Unacknowledged or incommunicado detention and "disappearances" continue in East Timor, in particular of individuals who are believed to be connected with the armed resistance. The risk of torture, ill-treatment and "disappearance" is especially high for those denied access to independent lawyers and their families. The authorities often deny that certain individuals are in custody or fail to provide information about their whereabouts.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/express/airmail letters in Bahasa Indonesia or English or your own language:
- calling on the authorities to clarify the whereabouts of Julio Soares da Silva, as a matter of urgency;
- urging that, if in detention, he be granted immediate and continuing access to independent lawyers and his family, and protection from torture or ill-treatment;
- urging that, if in detention, he be immediately released if he is not to be promptly charged with a recognisably criminal offence.

APPEALS TO:

Commander of the Armed Forces (ABRI)
General Feisal Tanjung
Panglima ABRI
Markas Besar ABRI
Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat no 13
Jakarta Timur
Indonesia
Telegrams: Panglima ABRI, Jakarta, Indonesia
Salutation: Dear General

Amnesty International, International Secretariat, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 8DJ, United Kingdom

Tel: (44)(171) 413 5500 Fax: 956 1157 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502 E-mail: uateam@amnesty.org

MILITARY COMMANDER REGION IX/UDAYANA
(covers Bali, Lombok, Nusa Tenggara and East Timor)
Maj Gen Rivai
Pangdam IX/Udayana
Markas Besar KODAM IX/Udayana
Denpasar, Bali
Indonesia
Telegrams: Pangdam IX, Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia
Salutation: Dear Major General

COPIES TO:

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS - EAST TIMOR
Alex Refialy, SH
Komnas HAM
Jalan Dr Antonio de Carvalho
Dili Timor Timur
Indonesia

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 6 December 1997.